

Minutes of the
Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University
Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee
May 14, 2020

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 9:43 a.m. by Chair Pritchard. This Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee meeting is being conducted through video conferencing communications and is being conducted pursuant to Section 6 of Executive Order 2020-7 (Suspending OMA requirements of in person attendance by members of a public body). Recording Secretary Parrish conducted a roll call.

Members present were Trustee John Butler, Trustee Montel Gayles, Trustee Madalynn Mershon, Trustee Eric Wasowicz, Board Chair Dennis Barsema and Committee Chair Robert Pritchard.

Trustee Rita Athas joined at 9:57 a.m. and Trustee Veronica Herrero joined at 10:05 a.m.

Also present were President Lisa Freeman; General Counsel and Board Parliamentarian Bryan Perry; Executive Vice President and Provost Beth Ingram; Board Liaison Matt Streb; Vice President for Administration and Finance Sarah Chinniah; Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships Jerry Blazey; Vice President for Enrollment Management, Marketing and Communications Sol Jensen; Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Vernese Edghill-Walden; Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Kelly Wesener-Michael and University Advisory Council Representatives Alex Gelman, Cathy Doederlein, Jason Hanna, Sarah Marsh, Kendall Thu and Jeffry Royce.

VERIFICATION OF QUORUM AND APPROPRIATE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

General Counsel Perry indicated the appropriate notification of the meeting had been provided pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act and advised that a quorum was present.

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

Committee Chair Pritchard asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Trustee Gayles moved, Trustee Butler seconded, the motion passed.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Committee Chair Pritchard asked for a motion to approve the minutes of February 13, 2020. Board Chair Barsema moved, Trustee Wasowicz seconded, the motion passed.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee Chair Pritchard expressed disappointment that COVID-19 had robbed the University of celebrating the graduation of 2,700 or so students.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Committee Chair Pritchard inquired to Mr. Perry if any members of the public registered a written request to address the board in accordance with state law and Board of Trustees bylaws.

General Counsel Perry advised that Roderic Moyer has requested to speak.

Roderic Moyer gave a presentation and discussed social change and leadership.

Trustee Gayles requested clarification about the information presented about the first Black Student Association President and then informed Mr. Moyer that the first Black Student Association President was actually Trustee Gayles.

UNIVERSITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Agenda Item 7.a. New Degree Program in Specialist in School Psychology

Trustee Gayles moved, Trustee Wasowicz seconded. Board Chair Barsema commented that this degree was removing roadblocks for students. The motion carried.

Agenda Item 7.b. Appointment of Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Board Chair Barsema moved, Trustee Butler seconded. Various members of the board welcomed Robert Brinkmann and thanked Acting Dean Judy Ledgerwood. The motion carried.

Agenda Item 7.c. Appointment of Dean, College of Law

Trustee Mershon moved, Trustee Gayles seconded. Various members of the board welcomed Cassandra Hill and thanked Interim Dean Laurel Rigertas. President Freeman welcomed Dr. Hill. The motion carried.

Agenda Item 7.d. Recommendations for Faculty Tenure and/or Promotion

Trustee Wasowicz moved, Board Chair Barsema seconded. Trustee Wasowicz discussed Professor Bart Sharp. Chair Pritchard was grateful to see this item considering the problems of the past year. Board Chair Barsema congratulated the esteemed group of recipients. The motion carried.

UNIVERSITY REPORTS

Agenda Item 8.a. Extension to Appointment, Acting Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

President Freeman and various board members thanked Acting Dean Judy Ledgerwood.

Agenda Item 8.b. Northwestern Medicine Partnership Update

Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs Mike Stang gave a presentation.

Agenda Item 8.c. Proposed Amendments to Board Regulations Related to Return from Parental Leave for Non-Represented Faculty

This is an informational item. Provost Ingram discussed the proposed amendments.

Agenda Item 8.d. Oral English Proficiency Annual Report 2018-2019

This is an informational item. Provost Ingram discussed the Oral English Proficiency Report. It was asked how students report. Provost Ingram advised that these come through the chair, the college and ultimately the Provost office.

OTHER MATTERS

Committee Chair Pritchard asked if there are other matters. There were none.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee will be Thursday, August 20, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Pritchard asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Gayles moved, Trustee Herrero seconded, the motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Parrish
Recording Secretary

In compliance with Illinois Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/1, et seq, a verbatim record of all Northern Illinois University Board of Trustees meetings is maintained by the Board Recording Secretary and is available for review upon request. The minutes contained herein represent a true and accurate summary of the Board proceedings.